

Gambling Control Board Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2008

45 Commerce Drive, Augusta, Maine

Meeting opened at 12:35 p.m.

Board members present: Chairman George McHale, Peter Danton, Cushing Samp, Larry Hall and new board member Richard “Dick” Arnold. Welcome to Dick Arnold from the Chair and Board.

Staff members present: Exec. Director Robert Welch, Auditor Scott Woods and Secretary Kathy Chamberlain.

Legal counsel: Melissa O’Dea, Ass’t Attorney General

- **Minutes from March 27, 2008 meeting:**

Motion to accept: Cushing Samp moved to accept the minutes from the March 27th meeting

Seconded: George McHale

Vote: 4-0

- **Executive Director’s Report – Robert Welch**

Mr. Welch reported that a mailing of the Problem Gambling brochure has been done to the Sheriff’s Departments and Probation Offices – about 200 sent out. Progressive Gaming Inc.’s slot distributor license was renewed for April 2008-2009. He will discuss Hollywood Slots Timeline for Opening under New Business.

- **Financial Update – Scott Woods**

Mr. Woods continues to examine individuals’ tax returns for the State Police, sent in by renewal applicants. He presented the weekly financial sheet to the Board and answered questions.

- **State Police Activity Update – Bob Welch for Sgt. Robin Parker**

Sgt. Parker and Det. Armstrong traveled to NY City to conduct interviews on Centerbridge and Fortress employees. Don Armstrong is conducting interviews two days a week at Hollywood Slots, due to the influx of folks being hired for the permanent facility.

- **Unfinished Business**

None

- **New Business**

Hollywood Slots’ Timeline: Mr. Welch passed out a Timeline for Hollywood Slots’ Opening with the dates of job fairs, when new machines should be arriving, when machines will be wired in and tested, the temporary facility at 427 Main St will close on 6/29/08 (overnight), a Charity event held on 6/30 at 10:00 am and the grand opening of the permanent facility on July 1st, 2008.

Scientific Games: The Board received a mailing prior to today’s meeting, on the proprietary information from Scientific Games (Sci Games), as to the costs they have submitted to the State, for

the upcoming move of Hollywood Slots to their permanent facility. Mr. Welch advised the Board that the contract with Sci Games requires the State to pay for costs required to move to the new facility. This bill submitted is covering what needs to be moved, that is not covered by the contract. Question: Is the state willing to pay these costs in order for Hollywood Slots to do their move within 22 hours? The state has to give authorization to Hollywood Slots before the machines are turned on. Discussion ensued – the Board was advised that the lost revenue to the State of Maine and the recipients of revenues would be \$414,000 if the vote was for them to make the move in 15 business days instead of a turnaround of 22 hours. Hollywood Slots agreed to pay 50% of the additional costs over and above what Mr. Welch had projected the cost of the move might take. Mr. Danton advised he would like the entities who receive revenues from the Racino, to be asked if they might be willing to help defray some of the costs for this move, to help the State. The Board would also like to see a breakdown of the total bill from Scientific Games. Mr. Welch will inquire to receive one.

Motion: Cushing Samp made a two part motion: #1. For the State to sign the contract and accept the Scientific Games costs for moving the equipment to the new facility, which includes software development costs and #2. That a draft of a letter be done by Mr. Welch and Ms O’dea, that could be sent to the recipients of revenues from the Racino, with a list advising who should receive the letter and who should not, with the rationale for each.

- **Public Comments**

Jon Johnson, general manager of Hollywood Slots addressed the Board to thank them for their actions, which allows Hollywood Slots to make a smooth transition. The construction is on time. Today the carpeting and wallpapering are being done which again is right on schedule.

- **Next meeting date – May 28, 2008**

- **Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Chamberlain
Secretary